

Application No.: 10/579,803
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116
Reply to Office Action dated February 26, 2010
July 23, 2010

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 5, 16 and 20 have been cancelled and claims 2, 4, 6-8, 11, 13-15, 17, 19, 22-24 and 26-28 have been amended in the application. Currently, claims 2-4, 6-15, 17-19 and 21-29 are pending in the application.

The indication that claim 29 is allowed is noted with appreciation.

The indication that claims 6, 9, 10, 21 and 23 contain allowable subject matter is also noted with appreciation.

By this amendment, allowable claim 6 has been rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of cancelled claims 1 and 5. Also, allowable claim 21 has been rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of claims 16 and 20. Therefore, in view of foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-4, 6-15, 17-19 and 21-29 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 1-5, 8, 11-13, 15-20, 24-26 and 28 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Minami et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0163620). Also, claims 1-5, 8, 11-13, 15-20, 24-26 and 28 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Minami et al. in view of Ueda et al. (U.S.

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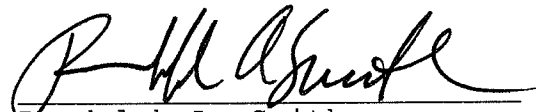
Patent No. 6,994,263). Also, claims 14 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Minami et al. in view of Ueda et al. and further in view of Okamoto (U.S. patent No. 6,993,690). Further, claims 7 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Minami et al. in view of Ueda et al. and further in view of Nakai et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0069925).

These rejections are now moot in view of the amendments to claims 6 and 21. Thus, applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and an action to this effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the amendments or these remarks, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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